

Vital Events

Registration of Kansas vital events (live births, deaths, fetal deaths, marriages, and marriage dissolutions) decreased 1.6 percent from 96,562 in 1990 to 95,038 in 2000. Table 1 Figure 2

Between 1990 and 2000, the most significant changes in vital events were a 35.5 percent increase in the out-of-wedlock birth ratio and a 25.5 percent decrease in the marriage dissolution rate. Table 1

The number of out-of-wedlock births to Kansas residents reached a record high in 2000 at 11,491. This represented 29.0 percent of all Kansas resident births, which is the highest proportion ever reported. Table 1

The live birth rate in 2000 (14.7) decreased 6.4 percent from the 1990 rate of 15.7. The rate of 14.2 in 1996 was the lowest on record, dating from 1935. The death rate increased 3.4 percent, from 8.9 in 1990 to 9.2 in 2000. Table 1 Figure 3

Fetal, hebdomadal, perinatal, neonatal and infant death rates decreased from 1990 to 2000, with percentage decreases of 21.4, 11.9, 16.5, 12.0 and 20.2, respectively. The infant death rate for 2000 (6.7) is the lowest ever recorded for Kansas residents. Table 1 Figure 3

In 2000, the number of couples married in Kansas continued to decline. The marriage rate (7.6) decreased 17.4 percent from the 1990 rate of 9.2. The number of marriage dissolutions (divorces and annulments) granted in the state increased for the first time after declining since 1991. Table 1

Over half (10,363) of the marriages in 2000 were first marriages for both the bride and groom. Figure 2